

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8 have been amended, claim 9 has been added, and claims 3 and 7 have been canceled, without prejudice of disclaimer. No new matter is submitted, and entry and approval are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §102:

Claims 1 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Yasukawa et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,189,466. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of review and as an example, independent claim 1 sets forth a camera, including display unit to display a camera setting and/or a control state, a mode selection unit to select at least one mode setting position at which a function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set, a selection/setting operation unit to select and set the function, a reset operation unit to reset the function to a specific initial state, and a reset control unit to indicate a reset by achieving a no-display state over a specific short period of time on the display unit when the reset operation unit has been operated. New Independent claim 9 also sets forth similar features in a method claim, with differing scope and breadth.

Yasukawa et al. fails to include at least the claimed "reset control unit to indicate a reset by *achieving a no-display state over a specific short period of time* on the display unit when the reset operation unit has been operated."

In addition, by way of review and a further example, independent claim 6 sets forth a camera reset device, including a mode selection unit to select, at least, one mode setting state in which a function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set, a selection/setting operation unit to select and set the function, a reset operation unit to reset the function to a specific initial state, and a reset control unit to reset only a function which can be selected and set in the mode setting state selected by the mode selection unit when the reset operation unit has been operated.

Further, "a release operation is enabled when the mode selection unit is set in, at least, one first mode setting in which a first function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set and the release operation is prohibited when the mode selection unit is set in,

at least, one second mode setting in which a second function other than the first function can be selected and set."

Yasukawa et al. fails to include at least this claimed release operation enablement/prohibition feature.

Therefore, for at least the above, it is respectfully requested that this rejection of claims 1 and 6 be withdrawn, and claims 1 and 6 be allowed.

Claims 1, 2 and 5-8 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Goto, U.S. Patent No. 5,903,786. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of review and as an example, independent claim 2 sets forth a camera, including a display unit to display a camera setting and/or a control state, a mode selection unit to select at least one mode setting position at which a function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set, a selection/setting operation unit to select and set the function, a reset operation unit to reset the function to a specific initial state, and a reset control unit to implement the reset control unit to reset display on the display unit when the reset operation unit has been operated.

In addition, "a release operation is enabled when the mode selection unit is set in, at least, one first mode setting in which a first function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set and the release operation is prohibited when the mode selection unit is set in, at least, one second mode setting in which a second function other than the first function can be selected and set." Independent claim 6 includes a similar feature, with differing scope and breadth.

The outstanding Office Action indicates that Goto discloses this claimed release operation enablement/prohibition feature in response to a first mode setting and a second mode setting, referencing Goto in col. 8, line 24 through col. 9, lines 19. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Goto sets forth that a release operation is enabled when mode selection unit is set in the normal position and does not disclose that the release operation is prohibited when a position other than the normal position is set.

In addition, Goto as noted in the outstanding Office Action, Goto fails to disclose the claimed "reset control unit to indicate a reset by *achieving a no-display state over a specific short period of time* on the display unit when the reset operation unit has been operated," as recited in independent claim 1. Further, canceled claim 3, which included this claimed feature, was

indicated in the outstanding Office Action as being obvious over a combination of Goto and Naruse et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,914,468. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Office Action states that Naruse et al. sets forth a display that can be momentarily turned off after a function is changed to clearly indicate the change of the function, referencing col. 26, lines 38-46. The corresponding portions of Naruse et al. merely set forth that a display on a screen can be momentarily turned off, with other displays continued being displayed on the same screen, after an execution of measurement to facilitate an observation of the measured data in one of the displaying portions left on.

The Office Action continues by indicating that it would have been obvious to utilize the turning off feature of Naruse et al. in Goto when a function is reset, "to clearly indicate that a change had been made."

However, for a proper obviousness rejection there must be evidenced motivation as to why a reference would need a recited features. Although Naruse et al. may disclose momentarily turning off a display, there is no suggestion that Goto needs such a feature.

More specifically, Naruse et al. sets forth that it is advantageous to remove some displayed material from a display screen when remaining displayed material is of interest, thereby allowing a more readily determination of what is shown by the remaining displayed material.

Goto sets forth that various modes indicated on the display are reset to the initial state after performing the mode setting process. Therefore, since the various modes are reset to the initial state without anything being erased on the display, a user is able to recognize the reset performance executed. Thus, in Goto, the display does not need to turn off for confirmation of reset.

Therefore, Goto actually teaches away from such a combination of Goto and Naruse et al.

Therefore, for at least the above, it is respectfully requested that this rejection of independent claims 1, 2 and 6 be withdrawn and independent claims 1, 2 and 6 be allowed. In addition, for at least the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims depending from independent claims 1 and 6 are also in proper condition for allowance.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103:

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Goto, in view of Naruse et al. In view of the above, and below, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is in allowable condition, at least for its dependence from allowable independent claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection of claim 4 be withdrawn and claim 4 be allowed.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

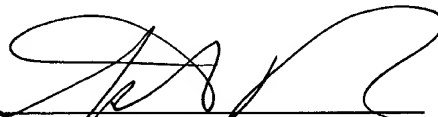
Respectfully submitted,

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5/24/02

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8, as follows:

1. A camera₁ comprising;
a display unit [that displays] to display a camera setting and/or a control state;
a mode selection unit [that selects] to select at least one mode setting position at which a function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set;
a selection/setting operation unit [that selects] to select and [sets] set the function;
a reset operation unit [that resets] to reset the function to a specific initial state;
and
a reset control unit to indicate a reset by achieving a no-display state over a specific short period of time [that implements said reset control unit reset display] on [said] the display unit when [said] the reset operation unit has been operated.
2. A camera, comprising: [A camera according to claim 1]
a display unit to display a camera setting and/or a control state;
a mode selection unit to select at least one mode setting position at which a function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set;
a selection/setting operation unit to select and set the function;
a reset operation unit to reset the function to a specific initial state; and
a reset control unit to implement the reset control unit to reset display on the display unit when the reset operation unit has been operated, wherein [;]
a release operation is enabled when [said] the mode selection unit is set in, at least, one first mode setting in which a first function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set and the release operation is prohibited when [said] the mode selection unit is set in, at least, one second mode setting in which a second function other than the first function can be selected and set.
4. [A] The camera [according to] of claim [3] 1, wherein [; said] the reset control unit indicates a reset by momentarily turning off [said] the display unit.

5. [A] The camera [according to] of claim 1, wherein [;]
the [said] reset operating unit is provided with two operating members; and
the [said] reset control unit determines that [said] the reset operation unit has
been operated when [said] the two operating members have been continuously operated
together over a period equal to or greater than a predetermined length of time.
6. A camera reset device, comprising: [;]
a mode selection unit [that selects] to select, at least, one mode setting state in
which a function related to a photographing operation can be selected and set;
a selection/setting operation unit [that selects and sets] to select and set the
function;
a reset operation unit [that resets] to reset the function to a specific initial state;
and
a reset control unit [that resets] to reset only a function which can be selected and
set in the mode setting state selected by [said] the mode selection unit when [said] the reset
operation unit has been operated, wherein
a release operation is enabled when the mode selection unit is set in, at least,
one first mode setting in which a first function related to a photographing operation can be
selected and set and the release operation is prohibited when the mode selection unit is set in,
at least, one second mode setting in which a second function other than the first function can be
selected and set.
8. [A] The camera reset device [according to] of claim 7, wherein [;]
[said] the mode selection unit is capable of selecting, at least, one setting among
photographing condition settings in which a photographing condition of a photographing
operation started by issuing a photographing start instruction in [said] the camera can be set, a
custom setting, in which value settings for a plurality of functions can be set independently of
one another and a film sensitivity setting in which the film sensitivity can be set, [;] and
details that can be reset by [said] the reset control unit when [said] the reset
operation unit has been operated in a given setting selected by [said] the mode setting unit only
include a numerical value or a state that can be set in [said] the setting.